UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



# Patent Public Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting

# **International Update**

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August 18, 2016



### **Global Dossier Initiative**

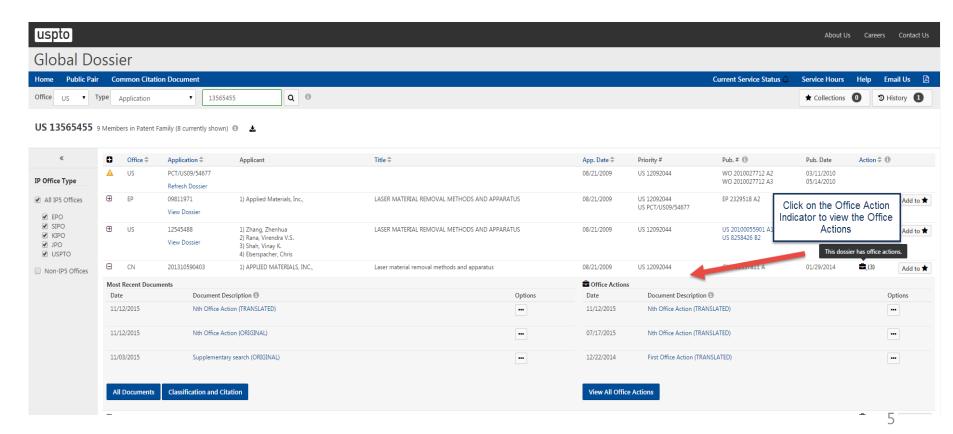


### **Global Dossier Enhancements**

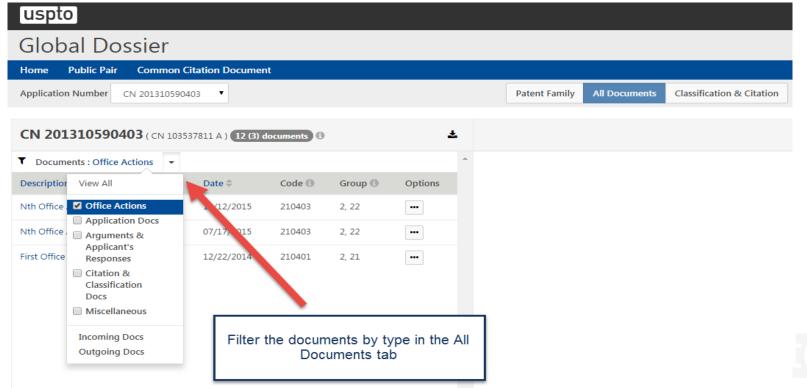
- Direct access to Office Actions from Patent Family Quick View
- Ability to filter document types when viewing application dossier
- Improved Office availability alerts (Closures, maintenance, holidays)



### **Direct Access to Office Actions**



# **Document Filtering**



### **Improved Office Availability Alerts**



family prosecution with increased cost savings

For more information, on the please visit the

provided to patent applicants.

Global Dossier Initiative page.

users identify applications that contain office

and applications for review later on in the

session, and the ability to download the

documents in an application.

actions, a Collections View for saving documents

Users may also verify the availability of application data from each office by selecting the **Current Service Status** link on the too

right side of the website.

### **Global Dossier Data Coverage**

- Accessing Office to WIPO-CASE by December 2016
  - GD access to application dossiers from WIPO-CASE member Offices (e.g. IP AU, CIPO, UKIPO)

 Working with IP5 Offices to increase scope of data coverage and hours of availability



## **Global Dossier Active Component**

- Backend Document Sharing Services
  - Preliminary backend services developed
  - Documentation and code being provided by USPTO to other IP5 Offices for feedback to further refine services

Identify next steps based on input gathered from IP5
 Offices and stakeholders

# **GD Usage Statistics**

- Dossier Access Usage (Public Accesses)
  - -31,000 accesses per day

- International Patent Family Usage (Examiner Accesses)
  - 10,000 accesses per day

# Access to Relevant Prior Art Project



### **Project Background**

- Study how the USPTO can increase examination efficiency and quality by leveraging electronic resources to retrieve information (prior art, search reports, etc.) from applicant's other applications.
- Explore whether or not automatically importing relevant prior art into the US application file at the earliest point in examination would reduce the burden of duty of disclosure for applicants.
- Consider if patent issuance can be streamlined by eliminating unnecessary information from first page of patent.



### **User Perspectives**

#### **Examiners**

<u>Awareness/availability</u>: how do examiners know that relevant information art is available and how do they access it

**Efficiently obtained**: how does the relevant information get to the examiner in a manner and time that will increase search and examination efficiency and quality

<u>Value Recognition</u> – what supplemental information is available to assist the examiner in determining the relevance of prior art

#### **Applicants**

**Acquiring Information**: how do applicants efficiently obtain the information necessary to meet their duty of disclosure

**Efficiently obtained**: how do applicants avoid cumbersome, costly, and time consuming efforts to monitor prosecution in related or counterpart applications so as to obtain relevant prior art

<u>Compliant presentation</u>: how do applicants efficiently submit relevant prior art and related information to the examiner in a time and manner such that it complies with regulations



# **Project Phases**

- Phase 1: Three track parallel information gathering
  - Track 1 IT & Data Source Gathering
  - Track 2 Application Studies Data Gathering
  - Track 3 Data gathering from internal and external stakeholders
- Phase 2: Information Review
- <u>Phase 2.5:</u> Business Solution Development
- <u>Phase 3:</u> IT Development and Implementation\*



# **Project Update**

- External User Initial Focus Sessions at Regional Office Locations – June 2016
- Federal Register Notice August 2016
- Roundtable September 28, 2016
- Examiners Focus Sessions 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY 17



# International Working Group Meetings



## Hague Working Group – June '16

- Approved proposal to allow changes to name or address of creator by filing request with WIPO
- Approved proposal to allow WIPO to charge basic fee before examination

## Hague Working Group – June '16

- Approved analysis of concept of reinstatement of rights
- Discussed use of WIPO/DAS to exchange priority documents in design applications



## PCT Working Group – May '16

- Approved proposal to extend deadline for requesting supplementary international search
- Approved proposal to allow Receiving Offices to forward classification and earlier classification and/or search results to International Searching Authority



### PCT Working Group – May '16 cont.

- Discussions continued on
  - Proposal to reduce fees for universities and publically funded research institutions
  - Color drawings
  - Updated sequence listing standard
  - Incorporation by reference of missing parts



### IP5 – WG3 - October '16

- PCT
- Quality
- Work Sharing
- PCT Collaborative Search and Examination Pilot
- Patent Harmonization Expert's Panel (PHEP)



# **Questions and Comments**

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